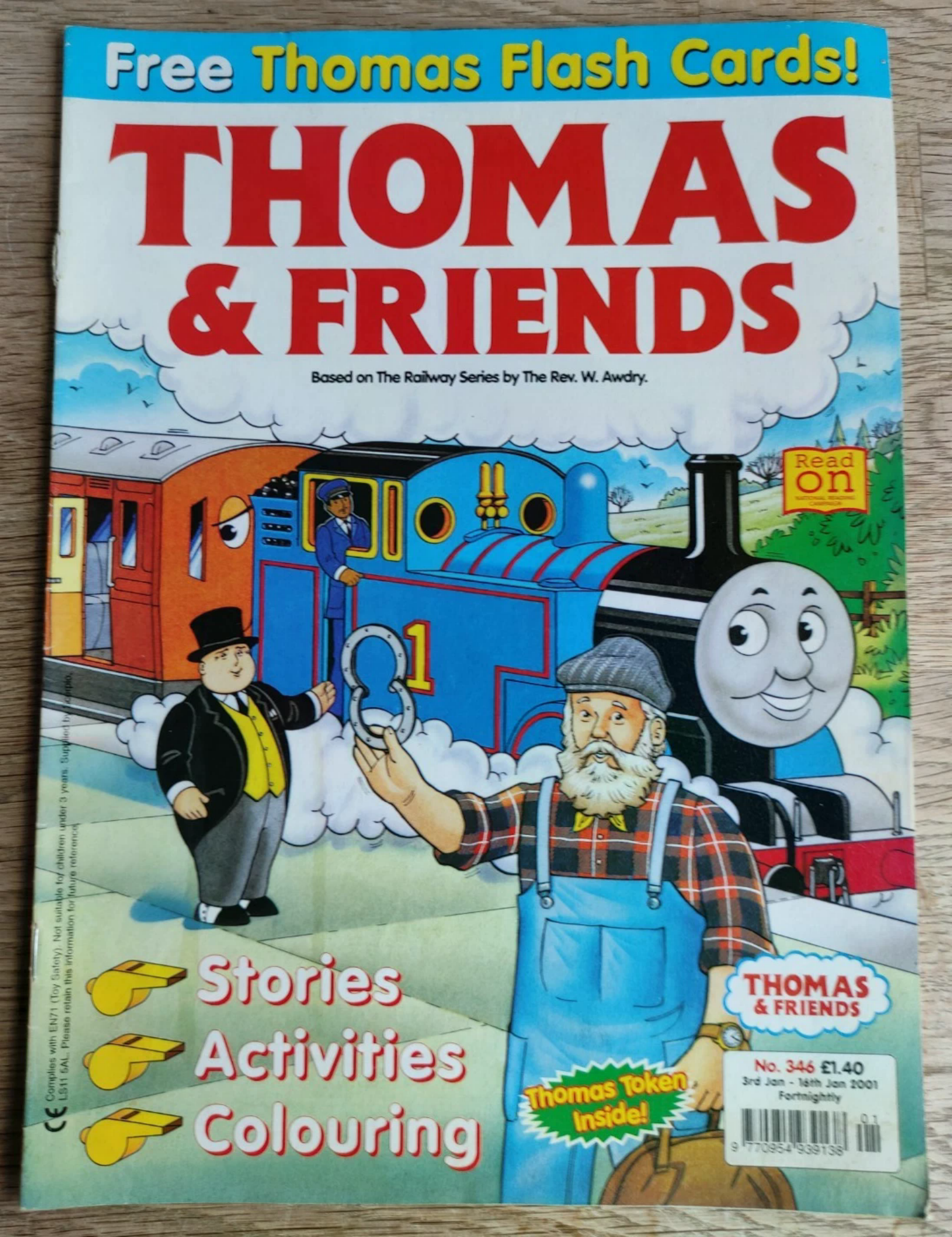
Free Thomas Flash Cards!

THOMAS & FRIENDS

Based on The Railway Series by The Rev. W. Awdry.



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Really Useful Reading with...

THOMAS & FRIENDS

Welcome

... to the world of Thomas and his friends. Thomas is ready to take your child on a special journey of learning and discovery.

Stories and activities involving all your child's favourite Thomas characters encourage active reading and participation, stimulate the imagination and teach basic moral and social issues.

All of the elements in this magazine are based on the findings of academic research.

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a story to read

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things to spot in a big picture

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a rebus picture story

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THOMAS & FRIENDS is a publication produced by Egmont Fleetway Ltd. 2001. Tramway Road, Bretton, Peterborough PE3 8DW. Tel: 0845 7444 6444. Editor: Jennifer Barker. Designer: Gary Knight. Managing Editor: Steve Marshman. Marketing Manager: Caroline Kingston. Production Manager: Siobhan Pluckrose. Marketing Director: Douglas Pocock. Managing Director: Rob Middlemiss. Advertising Manager: Susannah Hall. COPYRIGHT STATEMENT © is a trademark of The Rev W Awdry & Britt Allcroft (Thomas) Limited 2001. All rights reserved. Britt Allcroft (Thomas) LLC. THOMAS, the Tank Engine and Friends based on The Railway Series by The Rev W Awdry © Britt Allcroft (Thomas) Limited 2001. All underlying rights worldwide. ALL COPYRIGHT STATEMENT © is a trademark of The Britt Allcroft Company plc. Published by arrangement with Egmont Children's Books Limited, London. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons and/or institutions in this publication with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. Reproduction without permission strictly forbidden. Thomas and Friends must not be sold for more than the price shown on the cover. Printed in the UK by Goodhead Print Group, Bretton, Peterborough. Back issues (from 2001 only): Tel: 0845 7444 6444. Registration by St. Peters. Subscriptions: Tel: 01795 414555. ISSN 1464-9985

fun to read together

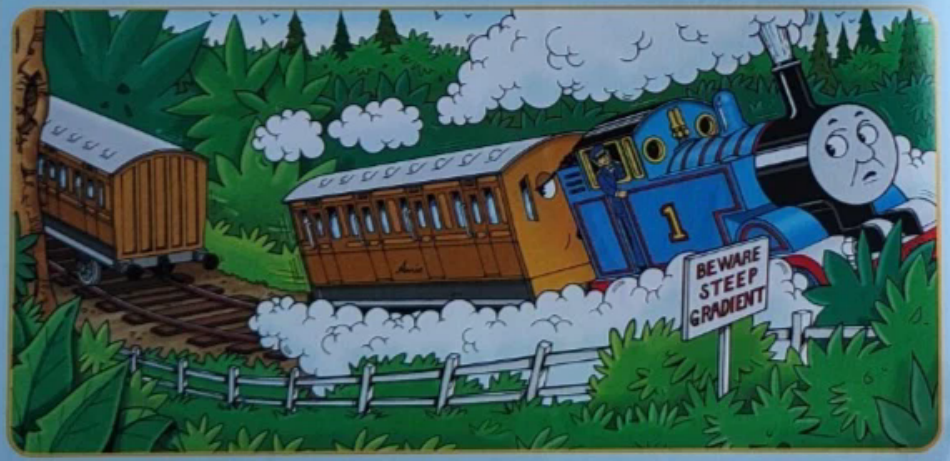
Really Useful Passenger!

1. One morning, a bearded man came onto the platform at Elsbridge. Thomas gave him a friendly peep. The man put a heavy bag down with a 'clank.'

2. "What's in the bag?" whistled Thomas. The man explained, "I'm the blacksmith and I always like to keep my most important tools with me, I feel lost without them!"

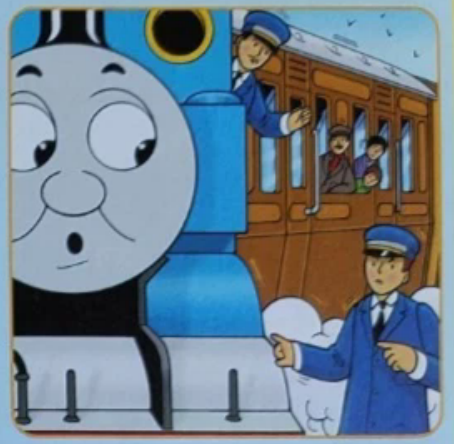
3. "How's business, Mr Bevan?" asked Driver. "Not so good, not many folk need blacksmiths these days. Farmer Collett's horses keep me in business!"

4. As Thomas set off, Driver explained, "Blacksmiths put horseshoes on horses and make things out of iron like gates. But people buy factory-made goods!"



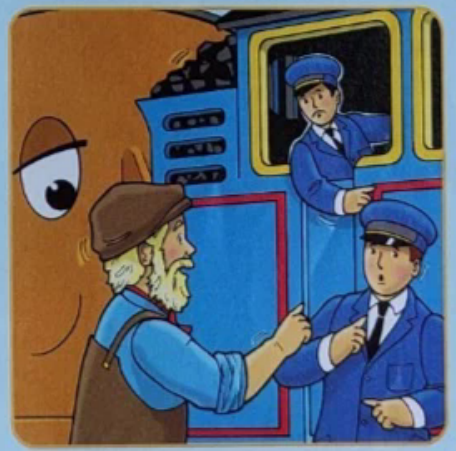
5. Thomas went down Gordon's Hill. "It's great to have a Really Useful passenger!" he puffed. At the bottom of the hill, Driver opened the throttle for the uphill.

6. "Be careful!" called Annie, "old carriages need gentle treatment, not sudden lurches!" Then she shouted, "We've lost Clarabel!" Driver shut off steam and braked.



7. "The coupling must have broken!" cried Driver. He told the passengers that the train would reverse to find Clarabel. The blacksmith was very interested.

8. At the bottom of the hill, Clarabel's guard shouted at Thomas. "Look what happens if you dash off! We need to reach the works to fix the coupling!"

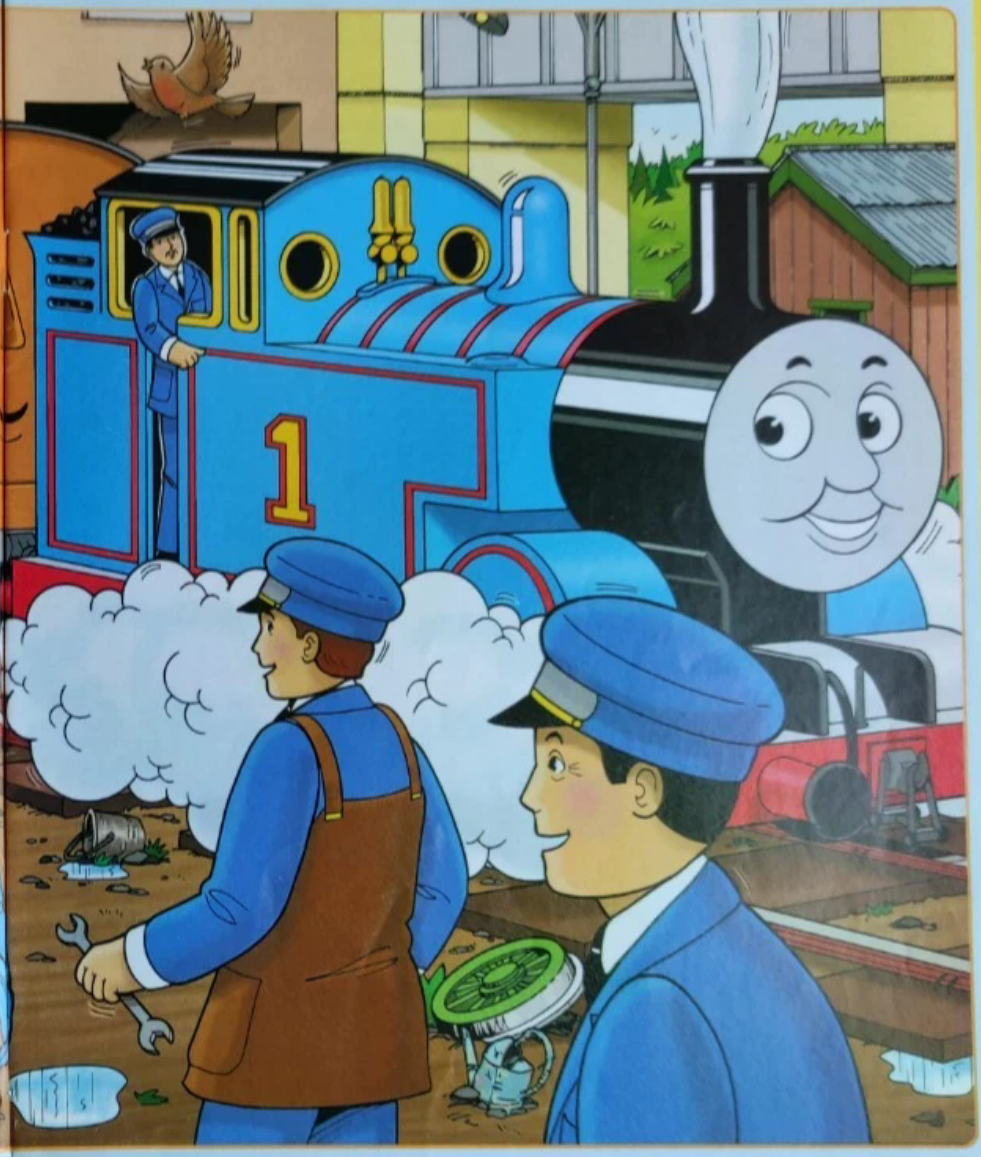


9. The blacksmith appeared, "I can help if you'll let me use Thomas' fire engine to heat up a couple of spare horseshoes!" Driver frowned, "It's unusual, but it's worth a try!"

10. The horseshoes turned red hot in Thomas' fire and the blacksmith made a coupling out of them. "This should get you to the works, Thomas!" he grinned.

11. Thomas puffed along gently. At the works, the horseshoe coupling caused a stir. "This man is Really Useful!" peeped Thomas. "He really got me out of trouble!"

12. The Fat Controller arrived, "You are not out of trouble, young Thomas," he said firmly. "But you're right about one thing, this man certainly is Really Useful!"

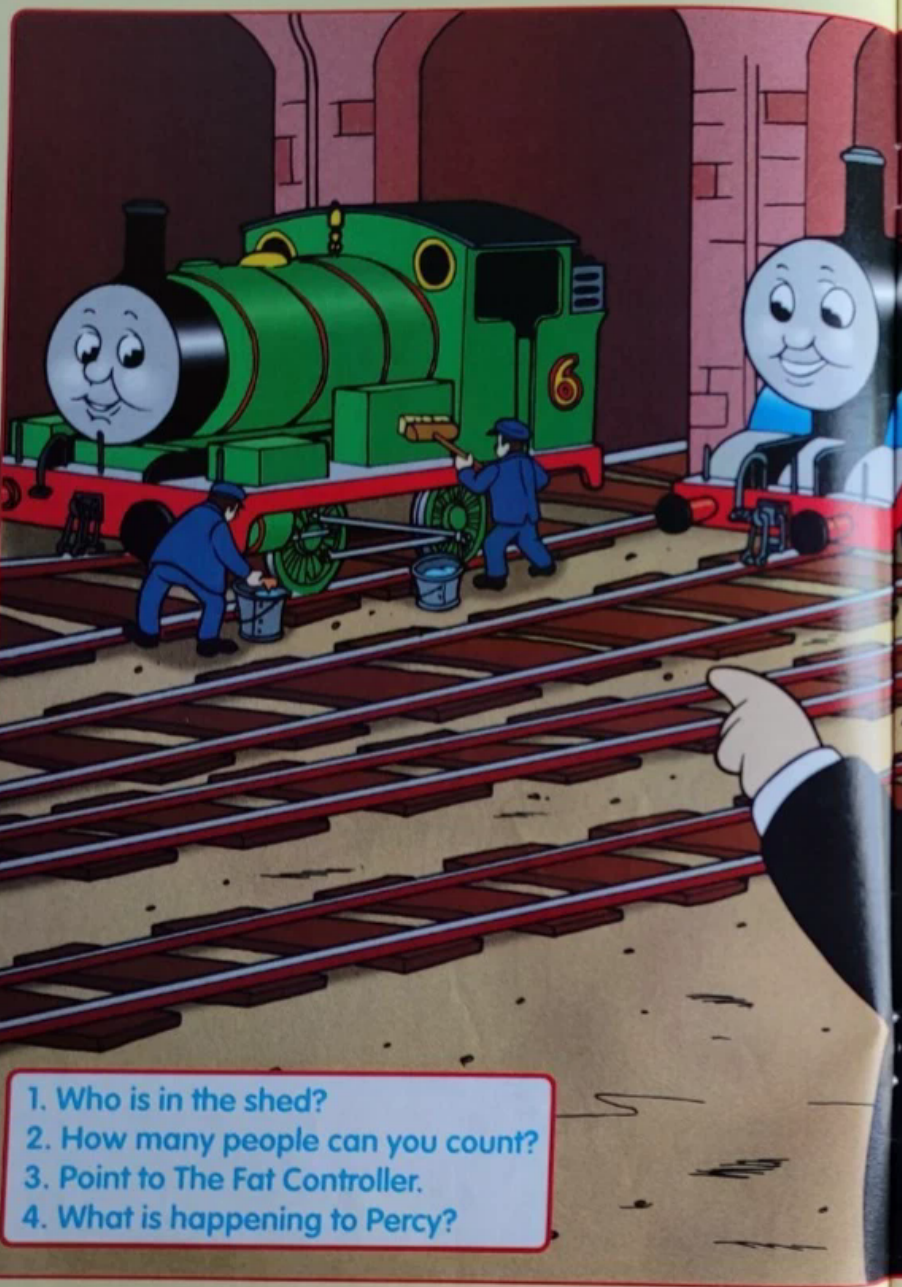


13. The blacksmith smiled, "but I needed Thomas' fire to heat the metal!" The Fat Controller smiled. "You're forgiven then, Thomas. I hope you learnt a lesson!"

14. Thomas grinned, "I was lucky, but Mr. Bevan won't always be on board!" The Fat Controller said, "Mr Bevan is on board from now on, I've given him a job at the works!"

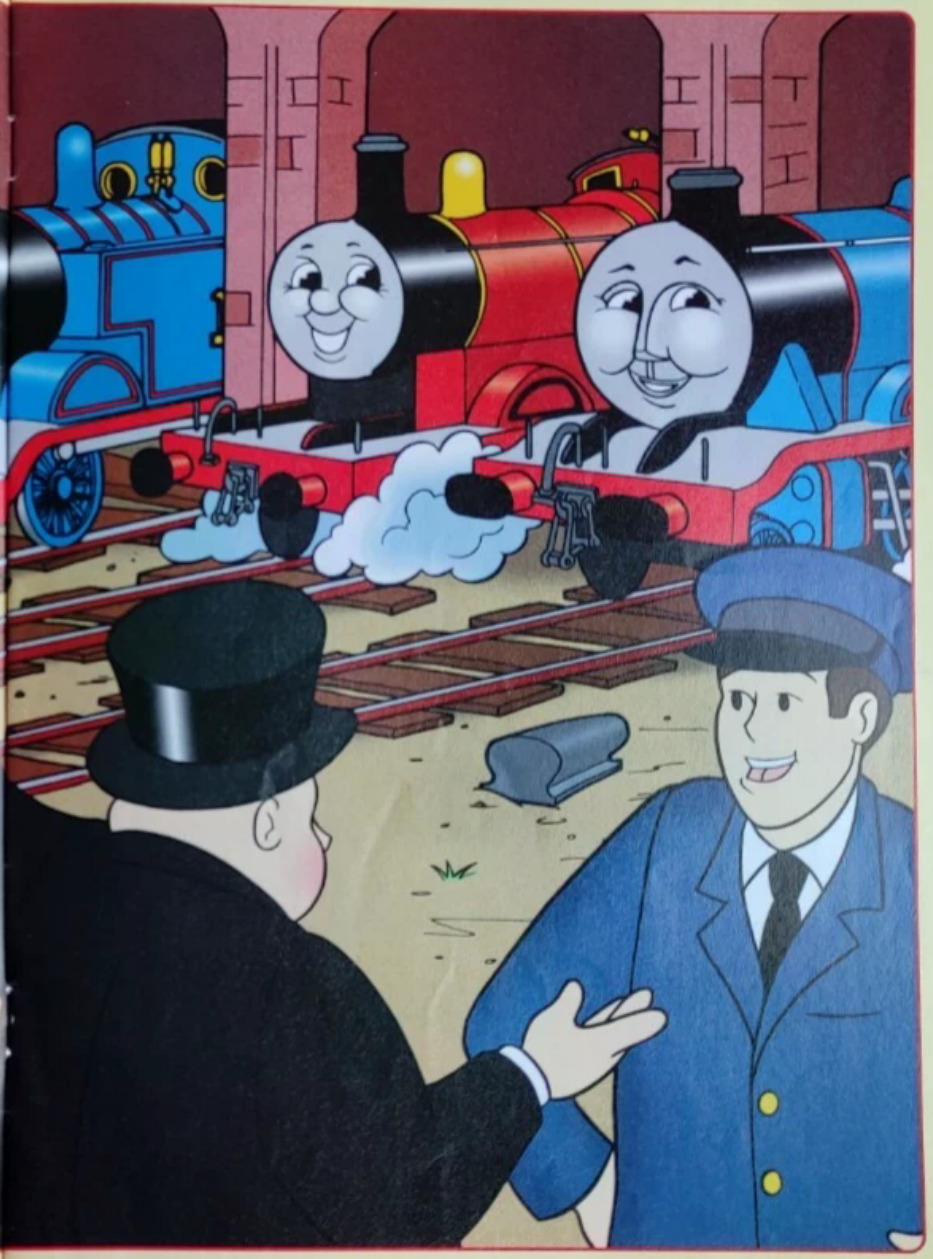
The End

Look and See!



1. Who is in the shed?
2. How many people can you count?
3. Point to The Fat Controller.
4. What is happening to Percy?

It's been another busy day for the engines!
Look at the picture. What can you see?



Answers: 1. Thomas, James and Gordon 2. four 3. on the left 4. he is being washed.

rebus story

Helpful George

Trace over the words below. Then read the story, when you see a picture say the word!

The words made into pictures are...

The Fat Controller

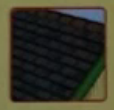
Thomas

George

bucket

coal

rain


roof

rug

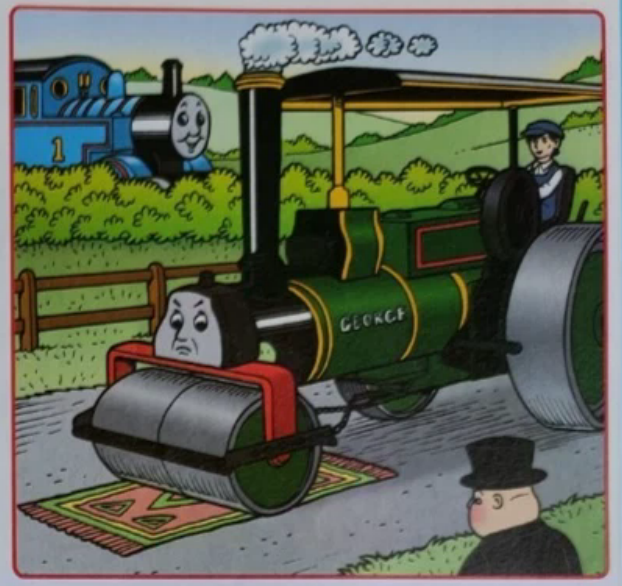
road

floor

Thomas saw mending a . The steamroller did not like engines or railways. Suddenly, he came to a stop. He had run out of ."How can I finish this road?" sulked . Then stopped at a signal, so his fireman kindly gave George a of coal to get him going again. "Pah! I don't like help from engines!" growled rudely. As returned to the Main Station, it rained

heavily. The leaked through the and soaked The Fat Controller's office that lay on the in front of his desk.

put a on the floor to catch the until it stopped. "My rug needs squeezing out before I hang it up to dry," he said. First, arranged to fix the leak in the . Meanwhile, Thomas saw and asked him to help. Soon The Fat Controller lay the rug down on the ground and rolled over it. His heavy roller squeezed out most of the water. "That will dry much faster now!" he said. "We've helped each other today, George," smiled . "Never again!" grumbled the steamroller.



The End

Colouring Fun

Use your crayons to colour this splendid picture of Thomas!

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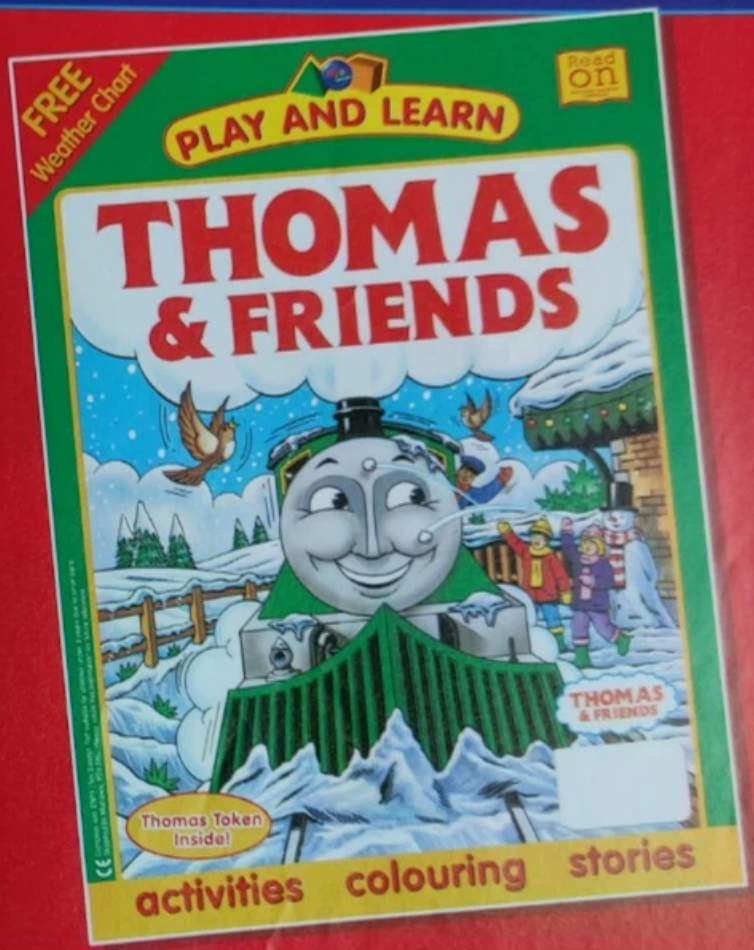
Play and Learn Thomas & Friends!



Packed full of activities, games and puzzles!

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Story puzzle

1

3

The right order is

answer: 2, 3, 4, 1

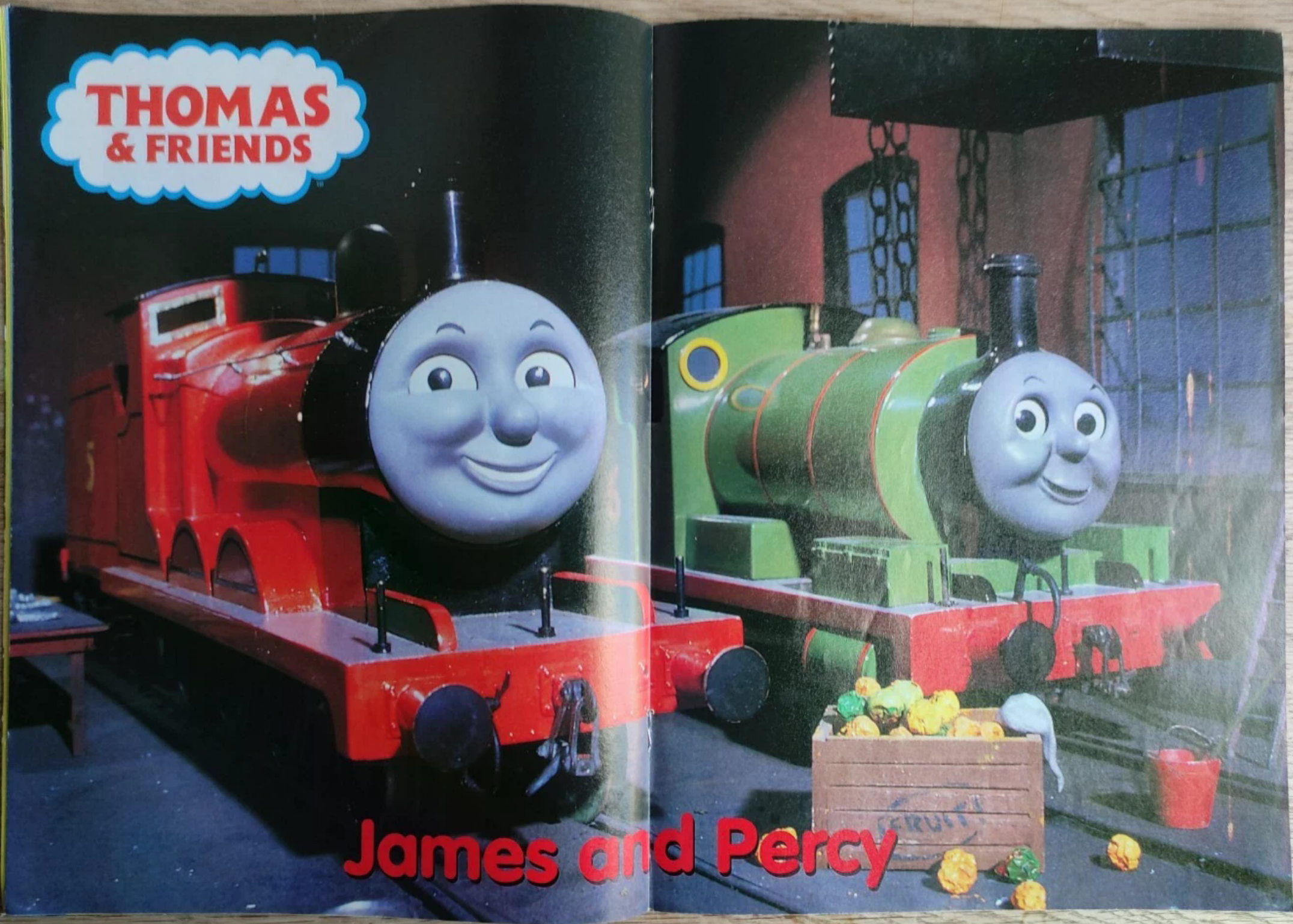
Write the numbers of these pictures below to show which order they should go in. Then tell the story yourself.

2

4

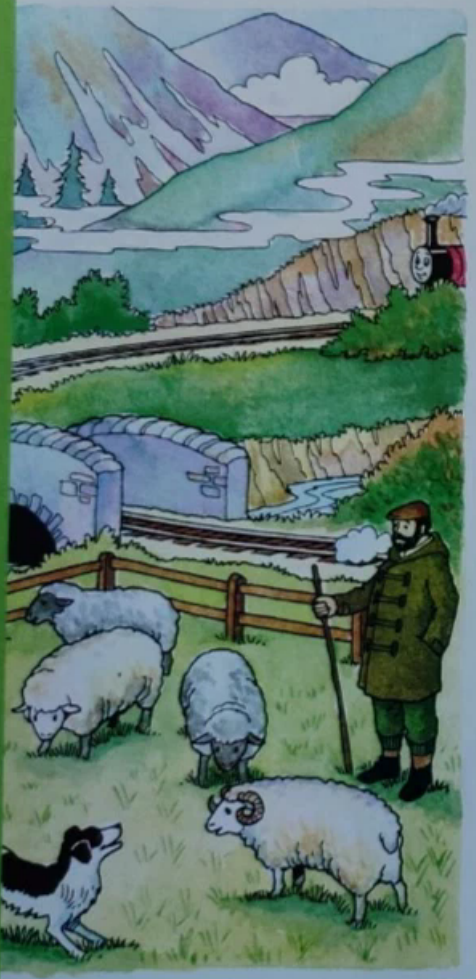
What was wrong with Caroline's tyre?

answer: It was punctured.


THOMAS
& FRIENDS
James and Percy

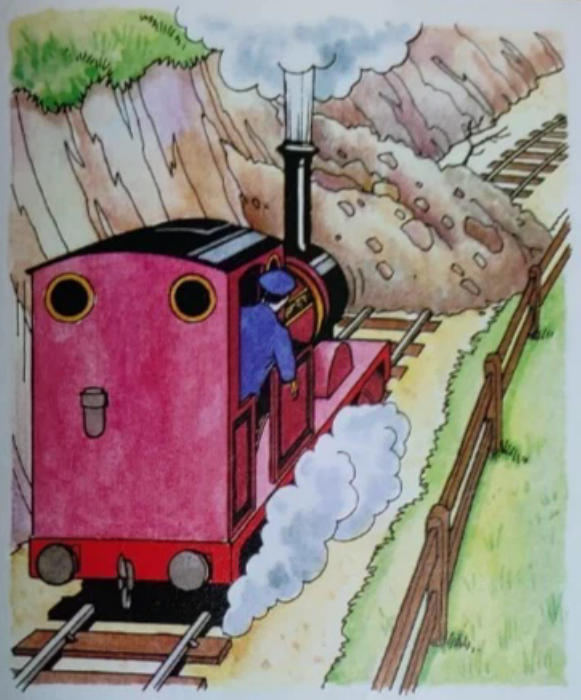
Thomas' rhyme time

Rescue Round-Up

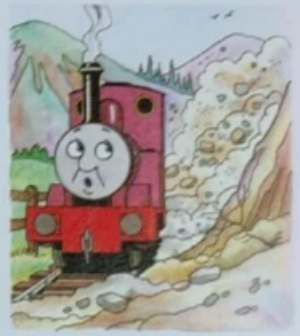


Pip the sheepdog was herding sheep,
When suddenly there was a peep.
He saw Rheneas puffing past,
The engine gave a cheerful blast!

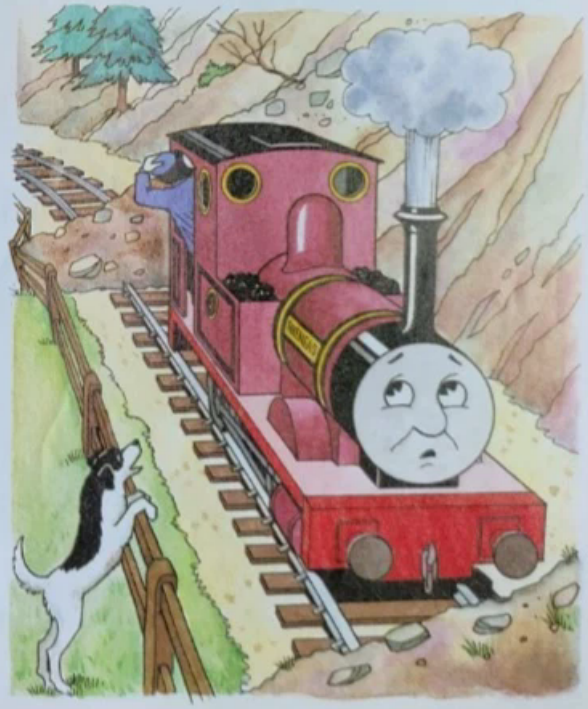
Pip watched his friend Rheneas go,
The sheepdog always barked 'hello'.
Rheneas and the working dog,
Would meet in the sun, wind, or fog.

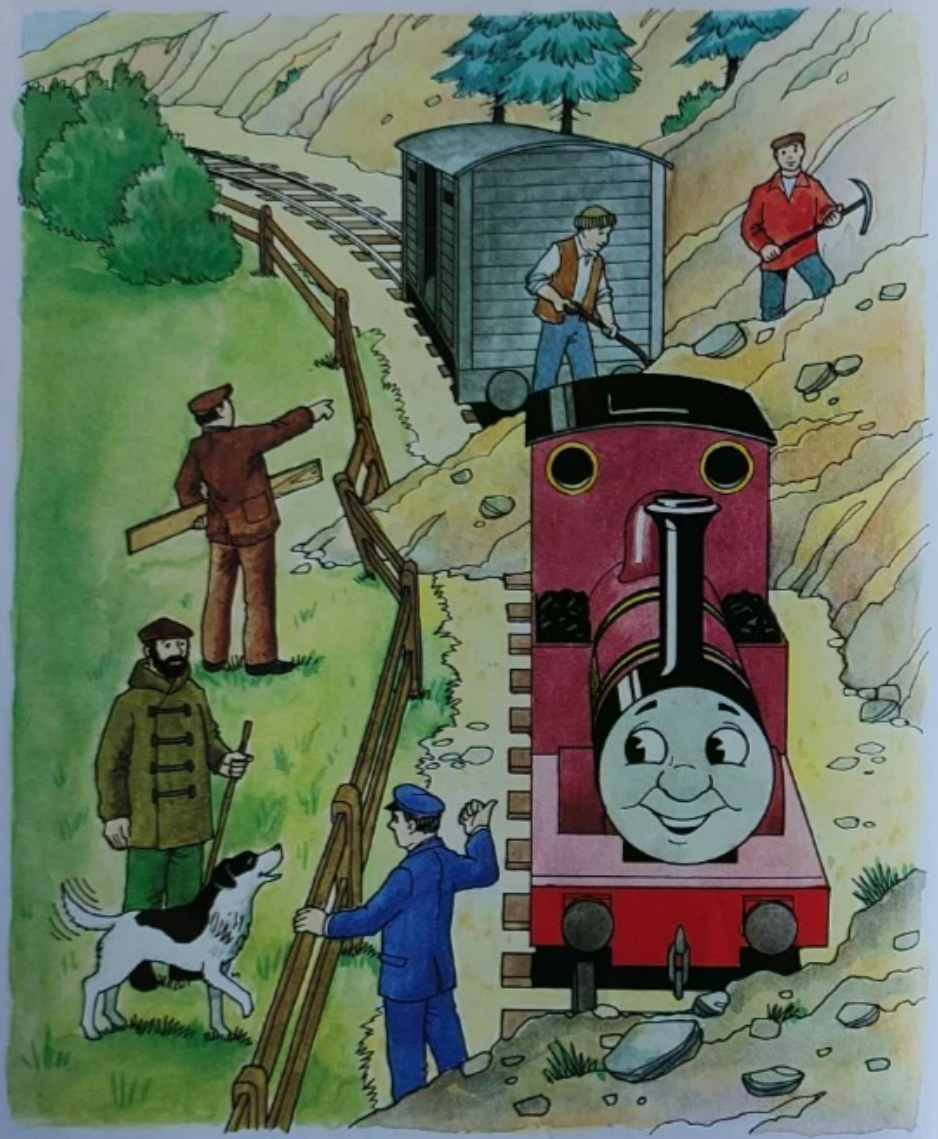


A heap of rock
upon the track,
Soon meant the engine
must turn back,
Behind him came
a new landslide,
"I cannot move!"
Rheneas cried.



The engine had run
out of luck,
For now he was
completely stuck,
He feared more earth
would shortly slip,
And so he whistled
to fetch Pip.

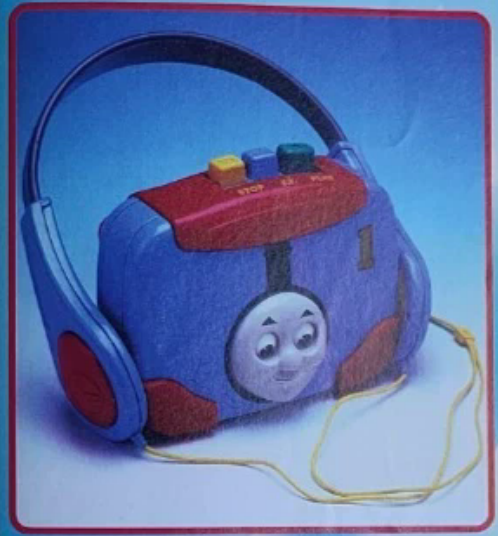




The dog arrived then raced away,
Alerting men to save the day.
"Smart Pip!" Rheneas called. "Thank you,
I see you rescue engines too!"

the end

12 Thomas Personal Stereos to be won!



Heart Character Toys are giving away twelve splendid Thomas Personal Stereos to be won by lucky Thomas readers!

For your chance to win just tell us:

What is The Fat Controller's real name?

a) Sir Topham Smith
b) Sir Topham Jones
c) Sir Topham Hat

Write your answer on a postcard along with your name and address.

Send your postcard to:
Thomas #346 competition,
SCA
Heart Character Toys,
37a High Street,
Walsall Wood,
West Midlands,
WS9 9LR

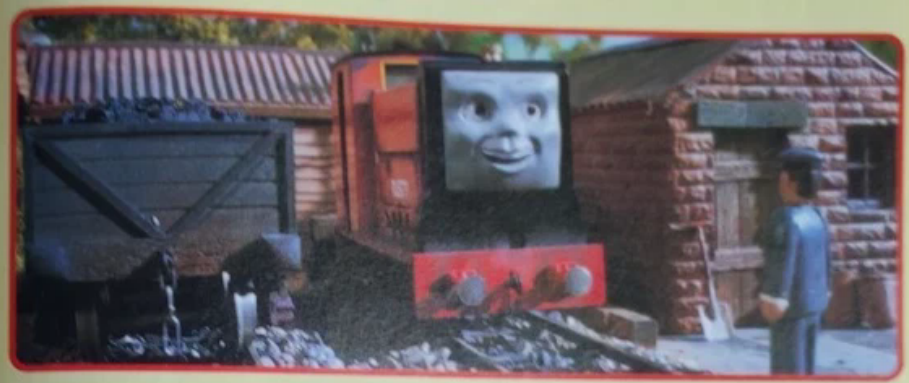
Closing date: 23rd January 2001

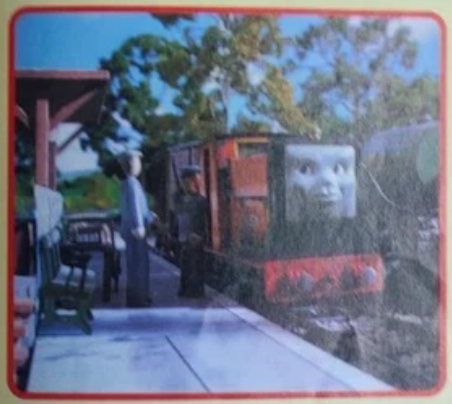
Heart Character Toys stock over 250 Thomas products in their mail order catalogue. For your free copy, call 01543 377182, quoting reference 346 or write to them at the competition address above.

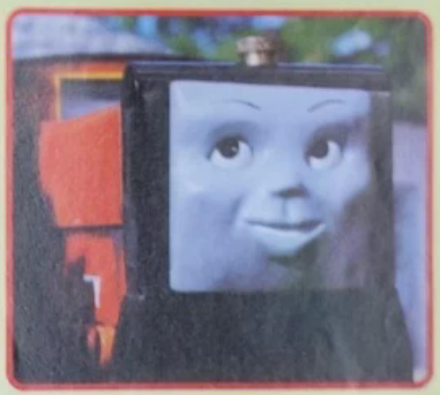
This competition is open to all Thomas readers other than employees of participating companies and their families. We cannot accept responsibility for any entries that are lost in the post. Please obtain permission from a parent or guardian before entering this competition. Entries are limited to one winner per household.

All about Rusty

Rusty is a hard worker with a huge heart. He loves adventure and the other engines on the railway. He will do anything to make their lives easier. Rusty truly is a pal for life! Rusty is a fearless and brave diesel engine.







Win a model of Rusty!

10 lucky readers can win a splendid model of Rusty from the Racing Champions engine range. ERTL

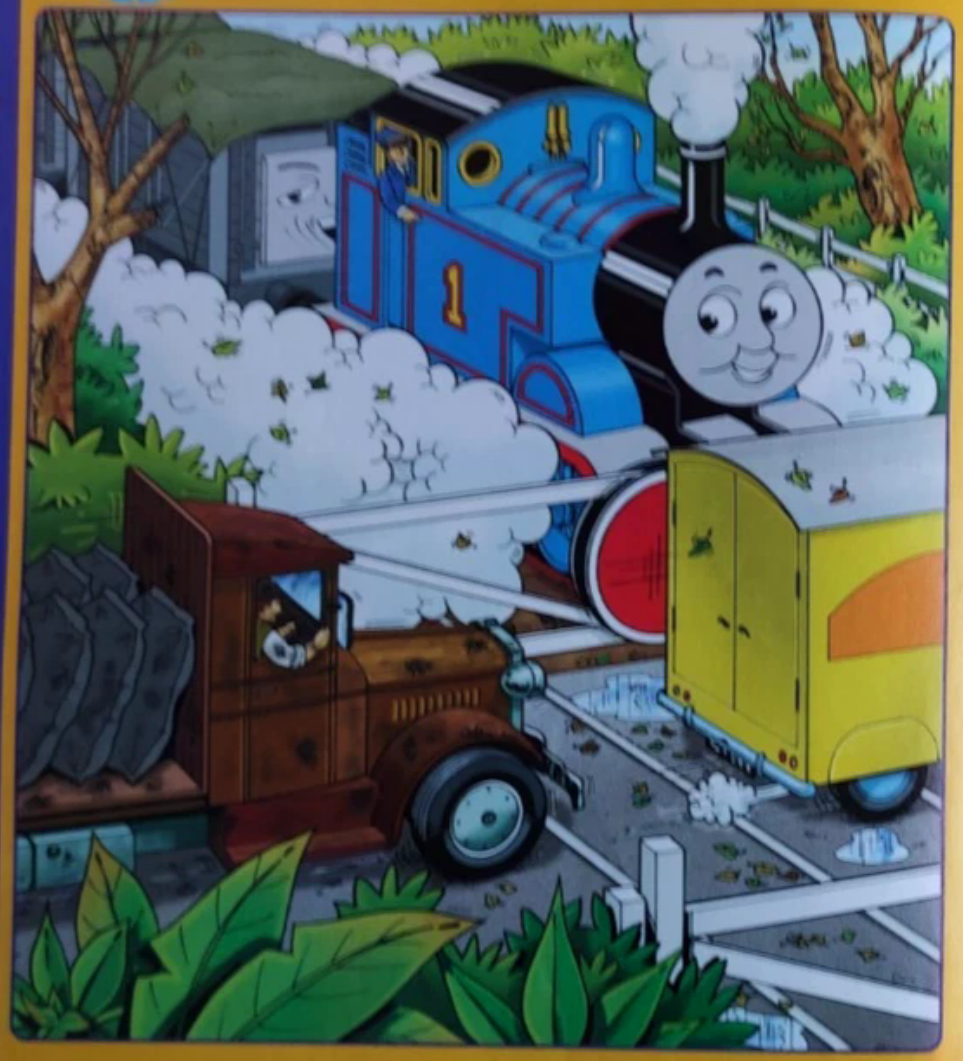
Just tell us:
What colour is Rusty?

Write your answer on a postcard along with your name and address and send it to: Thomas/346 model competition, Egmont Fleetway Ltd., PO BOX 29087, London, WC1N 9XE.

Closing date: 24th January 2001

This competition is open to all Thomas readers other than employees of participating companies and their families. We cannot accept responsibility for any entries or prizes that are lost in the post. Please obtain permission from a parent or guardian before entering this competition. Entries are limited to one winner per household.

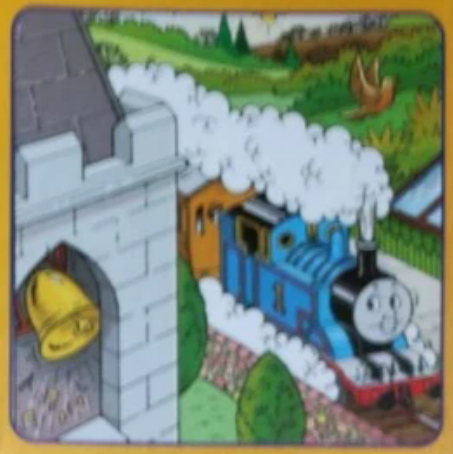
Sooty Sam



1. Thomas was waiting for traffic to drive over the level-crossing. Suddenly, he spotted the coalman and his lorry. "Peep-peep! Hello, Sooty Sam!" Thomas whistled.

2. Thomas always called the coalman that. He didn't mind a bit. "I'd know Sooty Sam anywhere," smiled Thomas. "He can't help it but he's always so dirty!"

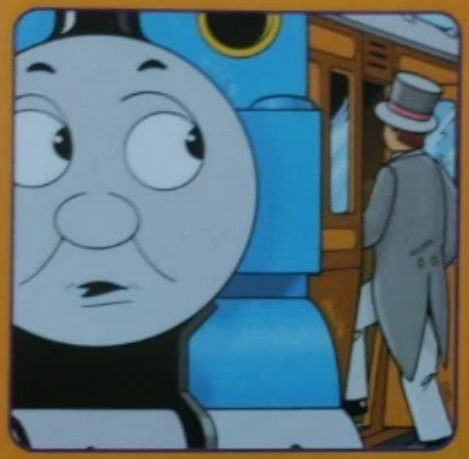
3. Sooty Sam's cheerful, smudged face grinned at Thomas. Then he waved a grubby hand and drove off. Before long, Thomas saw him again, unloading sacks of coal.



4. "You're even sootier than a big, smoky steam-engine, like me!" joked Thomas. A few days later, Thomas heard the church bells ringing as he puffed busily along.

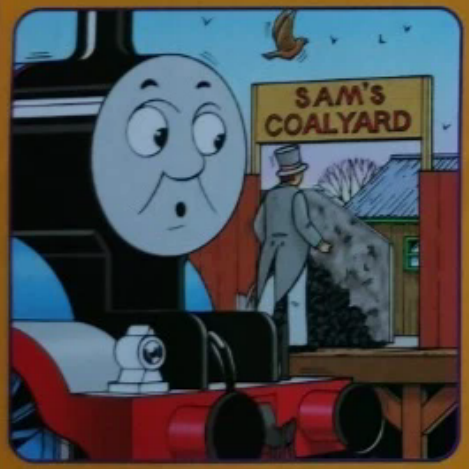
5. On the way back, Thomas stopped to pick up passengers by the church. A man on the platform called to him. "Good afternoon, Thomas," he said.

6. The man looked very smart. He was wearing a top hat and jacket, just like The Fat Controller. He had polished shoes that shone brightly like James' brass dome!

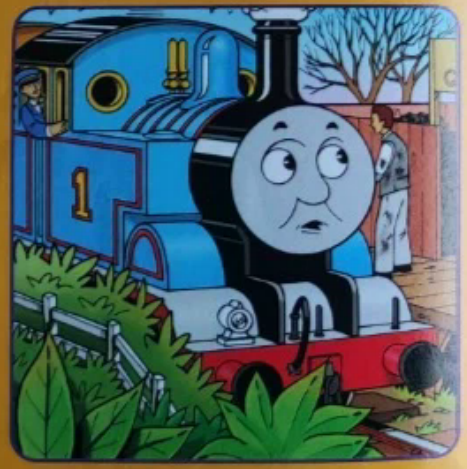


7. Thomas thought the man must be a very important passenger. "Good day, sir," Thomas called out politely. Soon Thomas was steaming on his way.

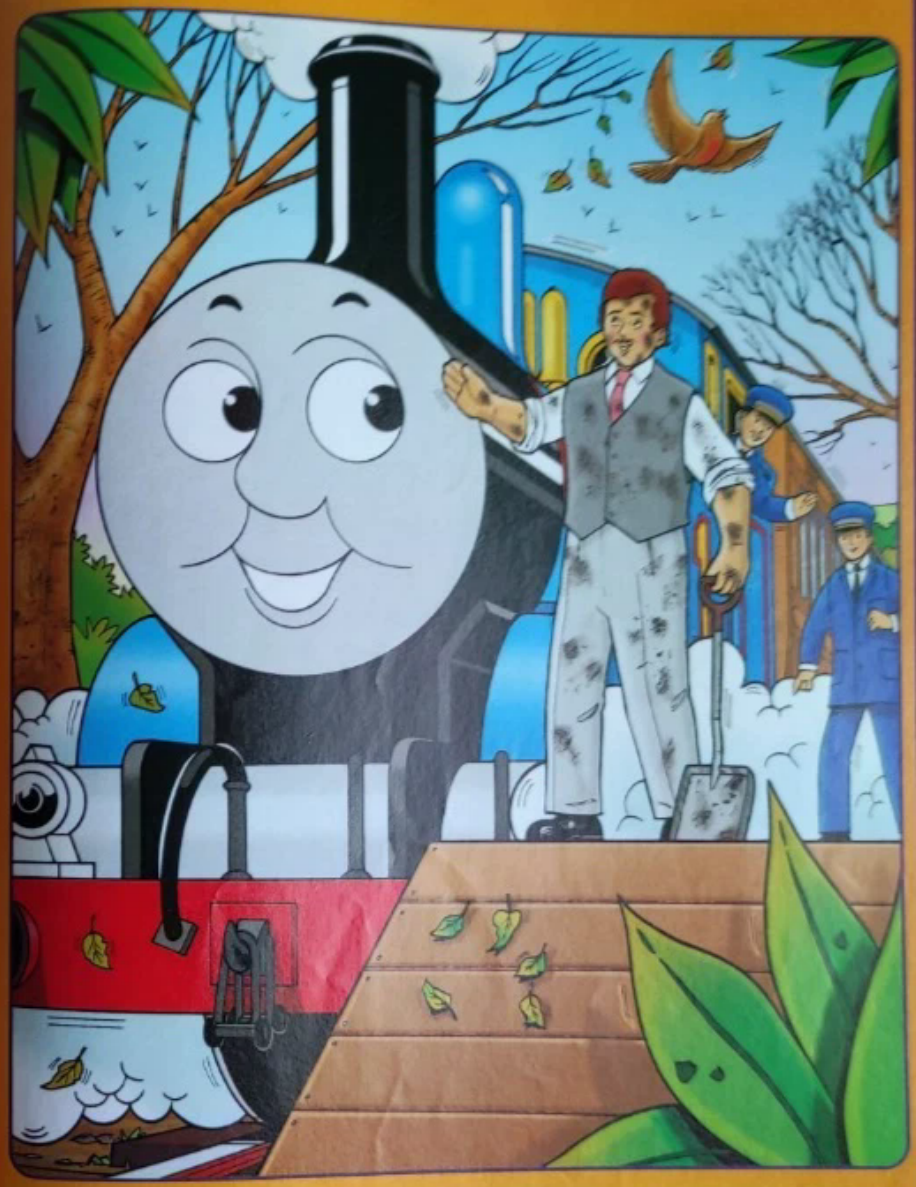
8. The little tank engine had not gone far when he rolled to a halt. "We've run out of coal!" said the fireman. Luckily, Thomas had stopped by the coalman's yard.



9. "I'm sure Sooty Sam can spare some," said Thomas. His guard told the passengers what had happened. "Leave this to me!" said the very smart man.



10. The man took off his jacket and hat, then went to fetch coal from the yard. Soon, Thomas was set to go. "It's most kind of you to help, sir," he called to the passenger.



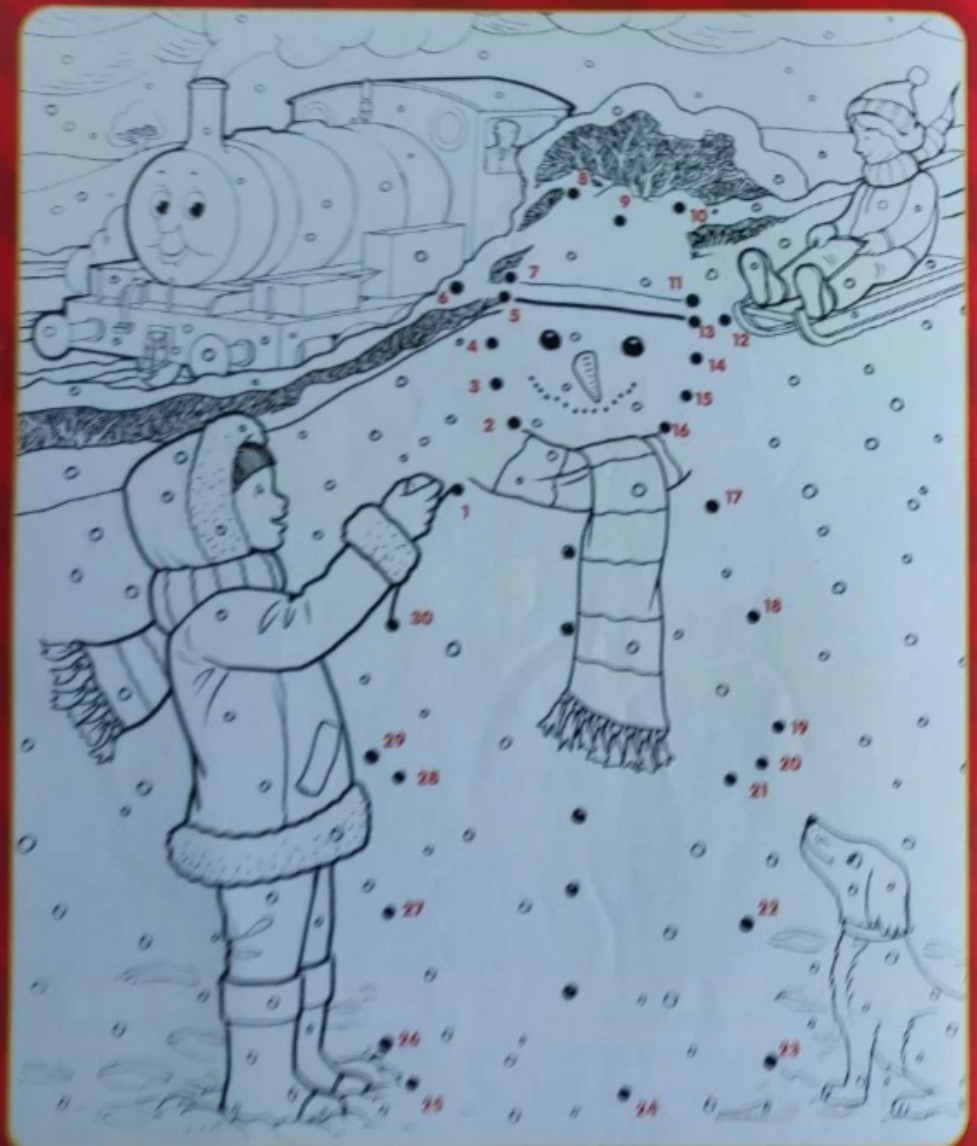
11. Then the man walked closer. His face and clothes were covered in coal dust. "My pleasure, Thomas," he grinned. "Smoke and Fire! It's Sooty Sam!" cried Thomas.

12. The coalman explained he had just been to a wedding. "No wonder I didn't recognise you, Sooty Sam," laughed Thomas. "I've never seen you look so clean!"

The End

Dot to Dot!

Join the dots to complete this picture.



Now use your crayons to colour in the picture!

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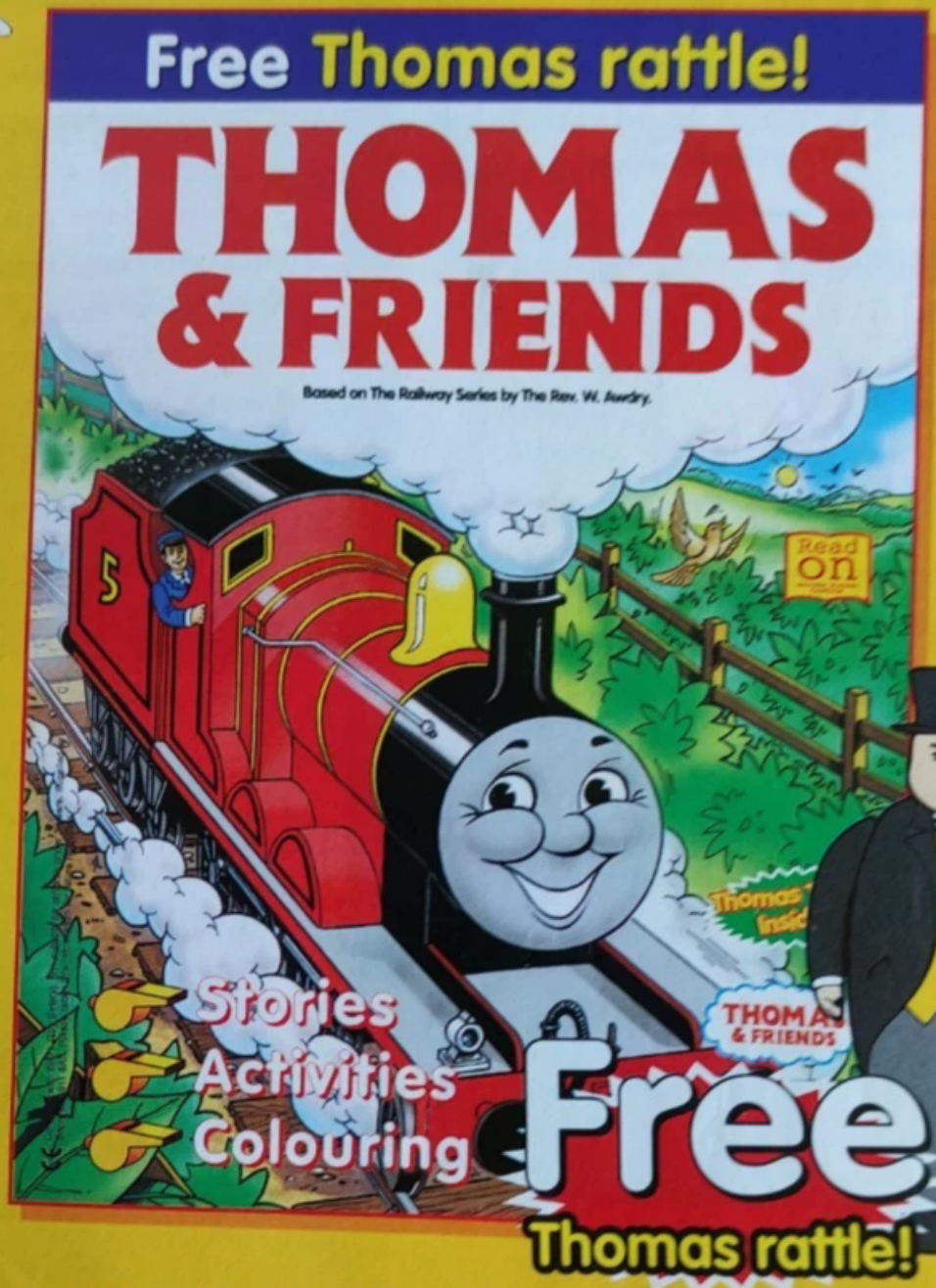

Stories to Read • Rhymes and Songs
Puzzles and Activities • Prizes to win
Plus a Thomas token to collect!

Issue 347 on sale from 17th January 2001!